

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 SUVA 00730 042321Z  
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
ICA-11 ACDA-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /091 W  
-----021787 050324Z /65

R 042000Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY SUVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7344  
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE UUVA 0730

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: MARR, FJ  
SUBJECT: FIJI TROOPS MAY SERVE IN MID-EAST

REF: SUVA 0637

1. THE FIJI TIMES OF 29 APRIL HEADLINED ITS FRONT-PGE STORY BASED ON A STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER, RATU SIR KAMISESE MARA, THAT FIJI HAD OFFERED TO CONTRIBUTE A CONTINGENT OF TROOPS TO THE UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING FORCES IN THE MIDDLE EAST. RATU MARA SAID THAT FIJI'S REPRESENTATIVE AT THE UN, MR. BERNARDO VUNIBIBO, TOLD THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL DR. WALDHEIM THAT FIJI, AS A MEMBER STATE OF THE UN, WOULD ALWAYS BE READY TO ASSOCIATE ITSELF WITH AND TO HELP THE UN IN DISCHARGING ITS RESPONSIBILITY OF MAINTAINING INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY.

2. IN ADDITION TO THE PRESS, RADIO FIJI PLAYED UP THE STORY IN SEVERAL NEWS BROADCASTS.

3. ON MAY 1 THE STORY AGAIN HEADLINED PAGE ONE:  
PEACE FORCE IS POSSIBLE FOR 600 MEN. THE TIMES  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 SUVA 00730 042321Z

REPORTED THAT THE SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MR. JIOJI KOTOBALAVU, SAID THAT "THERE ARE NO FIRM INDICATIONS AT THIS STAGE OF THE NUMBER OF TROOPS THE UNITED NATIONS WOULD REQUIRE, BUT IT IS LIKELY THAT IT COULD BE A BATTALION." A UN BATTALION WAS 600 TO 1000 MEN, HE SAID.

4. IN A LENGTHY RADIO INTERVIEW WHICH WAS QUOTED EXTENSIVELY

IN THE PRESS, JK STRESSED THE POINT THAT PARTICIPATION OF FIJI IN THE UN PEACE FORCE WAS CONSISTENT WITH ITS OBLIGATION OF A UNITED NATIONS MEMBER AND WOULD PROVIDE VALUABLE OPPORTUNITY FOR TRAINING AND FAMILIARITY WITH MODERN EQUIPMENT AND MILITARY ORGANIZATION.

5. THE PRESS REPORTED THAT THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL, DR. KURT WALDHEIM, HAD ANNOUNCED ACCEPTANCE IN PRINCIPLE OF FIJI'S OFFER. MR. KOTOBALAVU SAID FIJ WAS NOW WAITING DR. WALDHEIM'S CONFIRMATION OF THIS AND FOR THE UN TO SET THE NUMBER OF TROOPS IT WOULD REQUIRE. IF FIJI SENT ABOUT 600 SOLDIERS, THIS WOULD TAKE UP THE GREAT MAJORITY OF THE ROYAL FIJI MILITARY FORCES PRESENT STRENGTH OF JUST OVER 770 MEN, ADDED TH TIMES.

6. IN THE COURSE OF A 4 MAY CONVERSATION JIOJI KOTOBALAVU BROUGHT UP THE SUBJECT AND CORRECTLY DESCRIBED THE SITUATION AS DEPENDENT ON APPROVAL BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE INCREASE OF THE PEACE FORCE IN LEBANON FROM 4 TO 6 THOUSAND. HE ADDED THAT THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL HAS INFORMALLY ADVISED FIJI TO PLAN FOR A CONTRIBUTION OF 600 MEN. JK NOTED HOWEVER THAT THE ACTUAL DEPARTURE OF THE FIJI CONTINGENT MAY BE DELAYED PENDING NEGOTIATION WITH THE UN CONCERNING CERTAIN EXPENDITURES FOR THE MOVEMENT OF THE UNIT INVOLVED WHICH NORMALLY SHOULD BE BORNE BY THE DONOR COUNTRY BUT WHICH FIJI BECAUSE OF ITS LIMITED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 SUVA 00730 042321Z

RESOURCES WILL NOT BE ABLE TO COVER ALONE.

7. JK TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS APPRECIATION FOR THE U.S. SUPPORT OF THE FIJIAN OFFER TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TO THE UN FORCE IN LEBANON.  
CONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARMED FORCES, RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGS, INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING FORCES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978SUVA00730  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780191-0695  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** SUVA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780591/aaaadaah.tel  
**Line Count:** 100  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 6fe9cba3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION IO  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 SUVA 637  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 03 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2787967  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FIJI TROOPS MAY SERVE IN MID-EAST  
**TAGS:** MARR, PORG, FJ, UNIFIL  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/6fe9cba3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014